(b) The increase became inevitable due to higher prices being paid by the Mother Dairy to the State Cooperative Dairy Federations for procurement of milk.

(c) There has been no reduction in the consumers demand for Mother Dairy Milk.

International Mathematical Olympiad

*87. DR. SHRIKANT RAMCHANDRA JICHKAR : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) what is the procedure for selecting school students to be members of the Indian Delegation to the International Mathematical Olympiad ;

(b) what are the names of the Indian participants who have been selected for representing India at the IMC being held in Turkey in July, 1993 ;

(c) whether any complaints or representations against the selections were made ; and

(d) what are the reasons for India ranking 22nd in the International Mathematical Olympiad held in Moscow last year ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) to (d) The responsibility for selecting the Indian contingent for the International Mathematical Olympiads rests in the National Board of Higher Mathematics, an organisation under the Department of Atomic Energy. The Department of Education only meets the cost of international travel.

The National Board of Higher Mathematics carries out selection process by holding around 20 Regional Mathematical Olympiads through voluntary efforts in different parts of the country, 15 to 20 students from each Regional Olympiad appear in the National Mathematical Olympiad conducted by the Board on second Sunday of February each year. The top 30 students qualifying in the National Olympiad are then invited by the Board to attend a training camp organised by the Board for a month. In this camp, upto 15 students who had attended training camp in the last year are also invited. The final team of six is selected on completion of this camp on the basis of continuous assessment in tests.

For the Mathematical Olympiad just concluded at Istanbul on 23rd July, 1993 the following six students were the members of Indian contingent :—

1. Amit Chakrabarti
2. Kaustubh Namjoshi
3. Kartik A. Prasanna
4. Sambuddha Roy
5. Arvind Shanker
6. Shobhit Sonakiya

The Indian contingent has won Four Silver and one Bronze Medals in the competition this year securing 15th position among 73 participating countries.

It is difficult to assign specific reasons for India securing 22nd rank in the International Mathematical Olympiad held in Moscow last year as the Maths Olympiad is a closely contested international competition where a large number of countries show variable results every year. This is also evident from the improved ranking of the country amongst 73 contesting teams this year as compared to last year when only 64 countries had participated.

No complaints or representations against the selection of Indian contingent have been received either in the Department of Education or by the National Board of Higher Mathematics.